



USDA-NASS

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HIGHLIGHTS:

Red Meat Production
Cattle on Feed
Barley Utilized for Malt
Potato Production & Disposition
Milk Production
Egg Production
Cash Receipts County Estimates

Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.5 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during August 2004, down 10 percent from last year, but 17 percent higher than July 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,700 head, down from 1,900 head one year ago. The average live weight rose 7 pounds to 1,126 pounds.

During August there were 1,900 hogs slaughtered, compared with 2,100 one year ago. The average live weight, at 225 pounds, was up 4 pounds from last year. August sheep slaughter in the state totaled 500 head, unchanged from August 2003. The average live weight increased one pound to 121 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in August, down 1 percent from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in August 2003.

U.S. beef production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 8 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.82 million head, down 10 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,252 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.9 million pounds, 2 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,800 head, down 9 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 320 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year, and was a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 8.72 million head, 8 percent above August 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.1 million pounds, was down 4 percent from August 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 232,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from August a year ago.

January to August 2004 commercial red meat production was 29.9 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 10 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

U.S. Cattle on Feed

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.97 million head on September 1, 2004. The inventory was 1 percent above September 1, 2003 but 2 percent below September 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.10 million, 12 percent below 2003 and 6 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest placements for the month of August since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 2.04 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 506,000, 600-699 pounds were 413,000, 700-799 pounds were 565,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 615,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.92 million, 7 percent below 2003 and 10 percent below 2002. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of August since the series

began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 56,000 during August, 7 percent below 2003 but 30 percent above 2002.

Barley Utilized for Malt

Maltsters and brewers purchased 14.8 million bushels of Montana's 2003 barley crop to make malt, up 59 percent from 2002, according to a recent survey conducted by the Montana Agricultural Statistics Service. The survey was requested and funded by the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee. The average protein of the 2003 malting crop was 12.2 percent, which is 0.8 point lower than the average protein of the 2002 crop.

Montana growers seeded 1.15 million acres of barley in 2003, down 30,000 acres from 2002. Of the total, over 719,000 acres were seeded to malting type varieties. If the yield of malting varieties equaled the state average yield per planted acre for all barley, then approximately 21.3 million bushels of malting type would have been produced. Because only 14.8 million bushels were used for malt, the remaining 6.5 million bushels did not make malting grade or exceeded demand for malting barley. The barley utilized for malt represented approximately 47 percent of the 2003 total barley crop, compared with 24 and 26 percent in 2002 and 2001, respectively.

Harrington was the most frequently purchased variety by maltsters and brewers and represented 41 percent of the total purchases. Anheuser-Busch varieties, at 37 percent of total, were the second most commonly purchased. Sixty-eight percent of all malt barley purchased was grown in north central Montana, compared to 58 percent last year. South central Montana growers produced 19 percent of the total. (See table on back page)

Montana 2003 Potato Production Up 4 Percent, U.S. Down 1 Percent

Montana's 2003 potato production totaled 3,339,000 cwt., 4 percent above last year and 1 percent above 2001's production. Producers harvested 10,600 acres, 200 more than a year ago and 300 acres more than two years ago. Potato yields averaged 315 cwt. per acre compared with 310 cwt. in 2002 and 320 cwt. in 2001.

Value of production from the 2003 crop was \$25.4 million, down 5 percent from 2002. The average price was \$7.60 per cwt., a decrease of \$0.65 from the previous year's crop. Sales of Montana's 2003 potato crop totaled \$22.1 million, which is 9 percent below last year's crop. Producers sold 2,909,000 cwt. from the 2003 crop compared with 2,937,000 cwt. a year ago.

U.S. total 2003 potato production is estimated at 458 million cwt, less than 1 percent below the estimate made in the Annual Crop Summary in January and down fractionally from the 2002 crop. Harvested area, at 1.25 million acres, decreased 1 percent from a year ago. The average yield of 367 cwt per acre is up 5 cwt from 2002 and 9 cwt above the average yield from the 2001 crop. By season, winter production decreased 4 percent, spring rose 9 percent, summer went up 5 percent, and fall fell 1 percent from the previous year.

Winter and spring seasonal estimates for the U.S. are carried forward from earlier revisions. Summer potato production is revised to 18.8 million cwt for 2003, up 5 percent from 2002. Harvested area, at 58,700 acres, is down less than 1 percent from the previous year. The average yield of 320 cwt per acre is 16 cwt above the previous year.

U.S. fall potatoes are finalized at 411 million cwt for 2003, down 1 percent from the 2002 crop. Area harvested in 2003 is estimated at 1.09 million acres, down 1 percent from a year earlier. The average yield, at 376 cwt per acre, is up

2 cwt from a year earlier. Final production of fall potatoes is virtually unchanged from the Annual Crop Summary in January.

Value of U.S. all potato sold in 2003 is estimated at \$2.46 billion, down 13 percent from the previous year. The average price, at \$5.89 per cwt, went down \$0.78 from a year earlier. Sales from the 2003 potato crop totaled 417 million cwt, down 1 percent from 2002. Sales accounted for 91 percent of 2003 production. Non sales accounted for 40.8 million cwt, 12 percent above the previous year. Over the past five years, 91 percent of the potatoes grown have been sold. The other 9 percent were either lost (shrinkage and loss) or used on farms where grown (seed, home use, and livestock feed).

U.S. processors used 257 million cwt of raw potatoes from the 2003 crop, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Table stock sales totaled 135 million cwt, 3 percent above the previous year. Seed sales of 22.4 million cwt are down 7 percent. Sales for livestock feed, at 2.01 million cwt, are down 34 percent from a year earlier.

Potatoes used for chips and shoestrings in the U.S. totaled 52.8 million cwt in 2003, up 2 percent from the previous year. Frozen french fries and other frozen products utilized 150 million cwt of raw potatoes, down 2 percent. Potatoes used for dehydrating totaled 48.4 million cwt, a decrease of 6 percent. Canning use, at 4.81 million cwt, fell 1 percent. Starch, flour, and other products were made from 879,000 cwt of potatoes, 16 percent below the previous year.

U.S. shrinkage and loss is estimated at 35.3 million cwt for 2003, up 14 percent from 2002. Potatoes used for livestock feed on farms where grown and home use totaled 1.54 million cwt, 4 percent above the previous season. Growers kept 4.00 million cwt for seed on their own farms, down 3 percent from a year earlier.

August Milk Production Up 1.5 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during August totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from August 2003. July revised production, at 12.5 billion pounds, was up 1.0 percent from July 2003. The July revision represented an increase of 36 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,595 pounds for August, 24 pounds above August 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 5,000 head less than August 2003, but 7,000 head more than July 2004.

August Egg Production Up 2 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.52 billion during August 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.43 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during August 2004 averaged 342 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. August egg production per 100 layers was 2,197 eggs, down slightly from August 2003.

All layers in the U.S. on September 1, 2004, totaled 342 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 342 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.64 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 2004, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.03 billion eggs during August 2004, up 2 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during August, at 320 million, was up 2 percent from a year ago.

Montana Cash Receipts from Sale of Principal Products & Government Payments by County - 2002

County and District	Livestock and Livestock Products		Crops		Total Cash Receipts		Government Payments	All Cash Receipts 1/	
	(000) Dols.	Rank	(000) Dols.	Rank	(000) Dols.	Rank	(000) Dols.	(000) Dols.	Rank
Deer Lodge	3,324	53	835	54	4,159	53	183	4,342	53
Flathead	8,244	43	17,152	20	25,396	32	851	26,247	33
Granite	8,017	45	1,377	49	9,394	48	428	9,822	49
Lake	23,478	19	16,456	22	39,934	17	1,580	41,514	20
Lincoln	2,315	55	1,364	51	3,679	54	2/	3,679	54
Mineral	908	56	254	55	1,162	56	2/	1,162	56
Missoula	5,756	51	2,179	42	7,935	52	243	8,178	52
Powell	16,858	25	1,802	47	18,660	41	585	19,245	43
Ravalli	17,784	24	7,423	28	25,207	33	1,033	26,240	34
Sanders	8,118	44	3,995	38	12,113	46	473	12,586	47
NORTHWEST	94,802	--	52,837	--	147,639	--	5,376	153,015	--
Blaine	25,434	16	20,634	14	46,068	13	10,210	56,278	13
Chouteau	14,073	33	44,124	1	58,197	5	20,150	78,347	2
Glacier	15,811	29	18,551	18	34,362	22	8,110	42,472	18
Hill	9,908	38	36,540	2	46,448	12	18,310	64,758	5
Liberty	8,259	42	22,753	11	31,012	25	8,924	39,936	22
Phillips	29,085	7	11,127	24	40,212	16	9,488	49,700	15
Pondera	14,280	31	34,655	3	48,935	11	9,287	58,222	12
Teton	27,601	12	29,110	8	56,711	6	11,271	67,982	4
Toole	9,311	39	22,219	12	31,530	24	10,515	42,045	19
NORTH CENTRAL	153,762	--	239,713	--	393,475	--	106,265	499,740	--
Daniels	5,303	52	21,593	13	26,896	30	6,845	33,741	28
Dawson	16,320	27	18,059	19	34,379	21	6,000	40,379	21
Garfield	25,871	15	4,139	37	30,010	26	6,576	36,586	26
McCone	12,368	36	16,499	21	28,867	28	7,262	36,129	27
Richland	23,883	18	32,705	5	56,588	7	7,472	64,060	7
Roosevelt	9,263	40	33,431	4	42,694	15	9,092	51,786	14
Sheridan	7,145	47	32,125	6	39,270	18	9,427	48,697	16
Valley	27,206	13	25,637	9	52,843	8	10,630	63,473	8
NORTHEAST	127,359	--	184,188	--	311,547	--	63,304	374,851	--
Broadwater	6,403	50	10,216	25	16,619	44	2,405	19,024	44
Cascade	30,982	5	20,258	16	51,240	10	8,257	59,497	10
Fergus	41,423	3	20,625	15	62,048	2	8,170	70,218	3
Golden Valley	7,836	46	1,372	50	9,208	49	2,754	11,962	48
Judith Basin	21,717	20	7,400	29	29,117	27	4,050	33,167	29
Lewis & Clark	12,867	34	7,197	30	20,064	37	1,198	21,262	39
Meagher	19,027	23	2,319	41	21,346	35	1,413	22,759	36
Musselshell	11,328	37	2,950	39	14,278	45	2,795	17,073	45
Petroleum	6,828	49	1,208	53	8,036	51	1,182	9,218	51
Wheatland	16,655	26	1,833	46	18,488	42	2,724	21,212	40
CENTRAL	175,066	--	75,378	--	250,444	--	34,948	285,392	--
Beaverhead	53,399	2	7,730	27	61,129	3	1,893	63,022	9
Gallatin	29,795	6	31,055	7	60,850	4	3,412	64,262	6
Jefferson	7,140	48	2,033	44	9,173	50	539	9,712	50
Madison	27,926	10	8,024	26	35,950	19	1,477	37,427	24
Silver Bow	2,956	54	235	56	3,191	55	108	3,299	55
SOUTHWEST	121,216	--	49,077	--	170,293	--	7,429	177,722	--
Big Horn	33,697	4	18,729	17	52,426	9	6,361	58,787	11
Carbon	28,362	9	14,340	23	42,702	14	2,068	44,770	17
Park	14,084	32	5,880	34	19,964	39	1,371	21,335	38
Stillwater	19,790	21	4,204	36	23,994	34	3,705	27,699	32
Sweetgrass	19,044	22	1,466	48	20,510	36	876	21,386	37
Treasure	12,661	35	6,331	32	18,992	40	685	19,677	42
Yellowstone	72,324	1	25,625	10	97,949	1	5,437	103,386	1
SOUTH CENTRAL	199,962	--	76,575	--	276,537	--	20,503	297,040	--
Carter	26,937	14	1,330	52	28,267	29	3,361	31,628	30
Custer	27,798	11	6,149	33	33,947	23	3,187	37,134	25
Fallon	16,206	28	2,090	43	18,296	43	2,789	21,085	41
Powder River	24,508	17	1,878	45	26,386	31	2,551	28,937	31
Prairie	15,434	30	4,548	35	19,982	38	2,992	22,974	35
Rosebud	28,972	8	6,569	31	35,541	20	4,027	39,568	23
Wibaux	8,393	41	2,804	40	11,197	47	2,307	13,504	46
SOUTHEAST	148,248	--	25,368	--	173,616	--	21,214	194,830	--
MONTANA	1,020,415	--	703,136	--	1,723,551	--	259,096	1,982,647	--

1/ Includes estimates of inter-farm sales and intra-state sales resulting in larger total cash receipts. 2/ Payments of less than \$50,000 are included in State totals..

SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

MONTANA BARLEY PURCHASED TO PRODUCE MALT, 2001-2003 CROPS

VARIETY	CROP 1/ YEAR	DISTRICTS					STATE	
		N. Central 2/	Central	Southwest	S. Central	Southeast 3/	Bushels	Protein 4/
ANHEUSER-BUSCH VARIETIES	2001	3,490,000					3,490,000	12.0
	2002	2,105,000	919,000		306,000		3,330,000	12.8
	2003	4,190,000	762,000		520,000		5,472,000	12.1
HARRINGTON	2001	1,785,000	169,000	372,000	125,000	17,000	2,468,000	12.7
	2002	2,692,000	548,000	196,000			3,436,000	13.3
	2003	5,424,000	217,000		126,000	90,000	5,857,000	12.7
LEGACY	2001							
	2002							
	2003	294,000	73,000			328,000	695,000	12.5
MORAVIAN 37	2001		75,000		1,220,000		1,295,000	11.8
	2002	617,000			1,790,000	88,000	2,495,000	12.8
	2003	80,000			2,200,000	179,000	2,459,000	11.2
MOREX	2001		30,000	134,000			164,000	11.8
	2002							
	2003							
OTHER	2001	71,000	27,000	23,000			121,000	13.1
	2002			28,000			28,000	11.8
	2003					295,000	295,000	12.7
TOTAL	2001	5,346,000	301,000	529,000	1,345,000	17,000	7,538,000	12.2
	2002	5,414,000	1,467,000	224,000	2,096,000	88,000	9,289,000	13.0
	2003	9,988,000	1,052,000		2,846,000	892,000	14,778,000	12.2

1/ Crop year defined as July 1 to June 30. 2/ Includes Northwest. 3/ Includes Northeast. 4/ Computed prior to rounding purchases.

COMING IN NEXT REPORTER

Hogs and Pigs
Ag Prices Received
Small Grains Summary
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